

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-6, 12-21 and 23-35 are currently pending in this application. Claims 4-6 remain withdrawn from consideration as being directed to the non-elected species. By this Amendment claims 1-3, 12, 20, 21, 24 and 28 are amended. Claim 1 is readable on the elected species and is generic to the species encompassed by claims 4-6 and so it is appropriate to maintain dependent claims 4-6 in this application. Applicants respectfully request that upon allowance of claim 1, claims 4-6 be rejoined. Claims 2, 3, 12-21 and 23-35 are also readable on the elected species. Claims 1, 24 and 28 are the only independent claims.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the April 7, 2008 interview. The substance of the discussion held is incorporated into the amendments and remarks herein and constitutes Applicants' record of the interview.

During the interview it was noted that the recitation in canceled dependent claims 29 and 31 of "the first wire not being a coil" was not addressed on its merits by the January 10, 2008 Office Action. The feature of "the first wire not being a coil" has been incorporated into independent claims 1, 24 and 28. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that a subsequently issued Office Action be non-final in the event the Examiner does not believe that this application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 and 24 recite, in combination with other claimed features, a first wire made from a reshapeable and non-super elastic metal material, the first wire not

being a coil and a second wire made from a pseudo elastic alloy. A proximal end of the first wire and a distal end of the second wire are welded to each other at a welded portion. Claim 28 recites, in combination with other claimed features, a first wire made from a reshapable metal material, the first wire not being a coil. A second wire made from a pseudo-elastic alloy includes a distal end that is welded to a proximal end of the first wire.

Paragraph 12 of the Official Action characterizes the x-ray contrast material 112, 66, 81 as corresponding to the claimed first wire. The x-ray contrast material is formed of a coil of wire of an x-ray opaque material such as AU or PT and wound on the distal end portion of the wire A. The Official Action also characterizes the wire A, 61 as corresponding to the claimed second wire.

The claimed first wire is now clarified as not being a coil and thus, in combination with the other claimed features, distinguishes over *Uchino's* x-ray contrast material 112, 66, 81 which is formed of a coil of wire.

Applicants' note that in *Uchino*, the first wire A is identified as a super-elastic alloy at the paragraph beginning at line 54 of column 3. Thus, as suggested during the interview, the wire A of *Uchino* cannot be substituted for the x-ray contrast material 112, 66, 81 as the first wire of the claims.

The remaining dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the individual features they recite.

Palermo does not overcome the deficiencies of *Uchino* noted above.

Early and favorable action with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

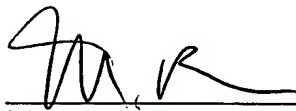
Should any questions arise in connection with this application, or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

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